QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

MESSRS. PATEL HONNASIDDIAH (Magadi Taluk) and S. THONTARYA (Devanhalli Taluk).—

Q.—1. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) What is the amount of process fees collected talukwar in Bangalore District during the last five years?

(*b*) Out of this, how much was collected during the year 1930-31; if the collections are large, what are the reasons?

(*c*) Were any orders issued by Government temporarily suspending the adoption of coercive measures for the collection of land revenue till the end of June 1931; if so, when?

(*d*) What is the amount of process fee refunded to the parties since then?

(*e*) Are there any cases in which the taluk authorities have adopted coercive processes in violation of the above Government Order; if the reply is in the affirmative, what disciplinary action have the Government taken against the said officers?

(*f*) Will the process fees so realised be refunded to the parties now at least?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.—

A.—1. (*a*) *Vide* statement attached (*Vide* Appendix C).

(*b*) Collections are not large when compared with the previous years.

(*c*) No. Only orders were passed permitting Deputy Commissioners to grant time in deserving cases.

(*d*) Nil.

(*e*) No such instances have come to the notice of Government.

(*f*) *Vide* answer to (*e*).

MR. BELUR SRINIVASA IYENGAR (Bangalore Taluk).—

Q.—2. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) Whether the elected Vice-President of Kankanhalli Municipality has been given any powers?

(*b*) If the answer is in the affirmative, what are those powers?

(*c*) Whether the attention of Government has been drawn to what has appeared in the *Viswa Karnataka*, page 15, dated 7th February 1932, regarding Kankanhalli Municipal President's orders regarding a municipal peon ?

(*d*) (i) Whether the same President has been regular in attendance at municipal meetings of 4th December 1931 and 28th February 1932, and (ii) whether his relationship with the Vice-President has been cordial ?

GENERAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—

A.—2. (*a*) and (*b*) There has been no formal delegation of powers to the Vice-President. The present incumbent who has been the elected Vice-President for over 12 years is stated to have been exercising the following powers :—

(i) Signing all routine correspondence and returns and passing *ad interim* orders.

(ii) Receiving petitions and applications in the absence of the President from headquarters.

(iii) Conducting, under proper sanction, sales of movable properties belonging to the Municipal Council or attached under the provisions of the Municipal Regulation.

(iv) Payment of rewards not exceeding Re. 1 in each case for destruction of wild animals and snakes.

(*c*) Government have gone through the article now.

(*d*) (i) The President is reported to have attended the meetings referred to.

(ii) Believed to be so.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. Belur Srinivasa Iyengar.—

The answer to (*c*) is that Government have gone through the article now. Can they say that there is any truth in it? If so, will they take any action on it?

General Secretary to Government.—

Government will consider the matter.

Mr. Belur Srinivasa Iyengar.—

The answer to the question whether the President's relationship with the Vice-President has been cordial is "Believed to be so." Did the Government ask the Vice-President if this was a fact before furnishing this answer?

General Secretary to Government.—

Government asked neither the President nor the Vice-President.

Mr. V. V. Iyer.—

Is the delegation of powers to the Vice-President permitted by the rules?

General Secretary to Government.—

The President and the Vice-President can adjust the work among themselves.

Mr. V. V. Iyer.—

If there is mutual adjustment in the work owing to the cordial relationship between the President and the Vice-President, will there be any objection?

General Secretary to Government.—

There cannot be any objection.

Capt. Y. V. Ayya.—

Was there any change recently in the Bill Collectors in the Kankanhalli Municipality?

General Secretary to Government.—

We do not know.

Capt. Y. V. Ayya.—

Are there any changes in regard to octroi and mohatara collections?

General Secretary to Government.—

Government have no information.

Capt. Y. V. Ayya.—

For how many days in the month does the Vice-President remain at Kankanhalli?

General Secretary to Government.—

No information.

Capt. Y. V. Ayya.—

The answer to (*d*) (i) is that the President is reported to have attended the meetings referred to. When did those meetings take place?

General Secretary to Government.—
We do not know.

Capt. Y. V. Ayya.—
Has it come to the notice of Government that a meeting was held before the time announced and there was no quorum?

General Secretary to Government.—
No information.

Capt. Y. V. Ayya.—
During collection season, when a distraint order was issued by the President, did the Vice-President say that the order should not be carried out?

General Secretary to Government.—
We have no information.

Mr. Bagamane Deva Gowda.—
Is it not necessary to furnish definite answers to the supplementary questions put by the members of the House?

General Secretary to Government.—
Certainly, if sufficient notice is given.

Mr. P. Subbarama Chetty.—
If the Government have perused the article, what are the steps taken by them in the matter?

General Secretary to Government.—
That question had not been asked.

Mr. P. Subbarama Chetty.—
Why did not the President exercise the powers himself instead of delegating them to the Vice-President?

General Secretary to Government.—
We do not know.

Mr. P. Subbarama Chetty.—
Did you ask the President?

General Secretary to Government.—
No.

Mr. P. Subbarama Chetty.—

Did not the Government consider it necessary to ask the President?

General Secretary to Government.—

We did not find any necessity.

Mr. P. Subbarama Chetty.—

Why did not the President report the matter referred to in the article to the council and then to Government?

General Secretary to Government.—

The matter was a trivial one and there was no need for it to come up before Government.

Mr. P. Subbarama Chetty.—

Is it not necessary to help non-official members in their work?

General Secretary to Government.—

Yes. It is certainly necessary.

Mr. P. Subbarama Chetty.—

Do you think that there are no defects in the working of the municipality?

General Secretary to Government.—

There are other authorities to look into those things. If they should report the matter to Government, then they will look into it.

Mr. P. Subbarama Chetty.—

Did you get a report from that authority in the matter?

General Secretary to Government.—

Yes.

Mr. P. Subbarama Chetty.—

Then, why did you not furnish the information to the members of the House?

General Secretary to Government.—

There is nothing in the report beyond what is furnished in the answer.

Mr. P. Subbarama Chetty.—

Is it not clear from the replies given here that the rights of non-officials have been interfered with?

General Secretary to Government.—

No.

Mr. V. Venkatappa.—

Has it come to the notice of Government that the Sheristedar has been attending to the duties of the Vice-President?

General Secretary to Government.—

We are not aware.

Mr. V. Venkatappa.—

If that is a fact, is it not against the rules?

General Secretary to Government.—

That is a hypothetical question.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

Will the Government enquire whether the Sheristedar has been signing for the President?

General Secretary to Government.—

We will enquire.

MESSRS. B. L. BYANNA (Bangalore City Municipality), B. M. MUNISAMAPPA (Bangalore Taluk) and S. MUNIVENKATAPPA (Minority Interest).—

Q.—3. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) The number of (1) regular appeals, (2) original appeals and (3) review petitions on the civil side and that of (1) appeals, (2) reviews and (3) other miscellaneous petitions on the criminal side in which arguments were heard and posted for order in the High Court of Mysore from 1st January 1929 up to date?

(*b*) The date when the above said cases were instituted in the High Court of Mysore, the date of their admission as also the date on which the arguments were heard and finally posted for orders?